

Backward districts in NE under NREGA

2399. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of backward districts in Assam and other States in N.E. region, included in the first phase of implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act;
- (b) whether Karimganj, Cachar and Hailakandi in Barak Valley have also been included in the first phase; if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government intend to include these districts in the next phase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Names of the districts in Assam and other North Eastern States which have been included in the first phase of implementation of NREGA Act is given in the Statement (See below).

(b) No, Sir. For the first phase of implementation of NREGA, 200 districts had been indentified by the Planning Commission. Out of these 200 districts, 150 districts are those districts where National Food for Work Programme has been implemented. 45 districts are those districts covered under Rashtriya Shram Vikas Yojana. The remaining five districts have been identified as learning impact districts to assess the impact of the programme in certain specific backgrounds.

(c) Districts for inclusion in the next phase of implementation of NREGA are yet to be finalized by the Planning Commission.

Statement***List of districts of Assam and North Eastern region covered under NREGA***

Arunachal Pradesh	1	Upper Subansiri
Assam	1	Bongaigaon
	2	Dhemaji

	3	Goalpara
	4	Karbi Anglong
	5	Kokrajhar
	6	North Cachar Hills
	7	North Lakhimpur
Manipur	1	Tamenlong
Meghalaya	1	South Garo Hills
		2 West Garo Hills
Mizoram	1	Lawngtlai
		2 Saiha
Nagaland	1	Mon
Sikkim	1	North Sikkim
Tripura	1	Dhalai

Lack of drinking water and sanitation facilities

2400. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 50 per cent of our country does not have toilets and 80 per cent of all the diseases and ailments are occurring owing to lack of safe drinking water and sanitation;

(b) if so, Government's response and reaction thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken for improving this ill and unwanted situation in the country by 2010?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per 2001 Census, 63.6% households in the country do not have toilets. In the rural area, 78.1% of the families do not have toilets. Lack of Access to safe drinking water and sanitation facility is cause of several diseases but its exact share in overall diseases in the country is not available. To